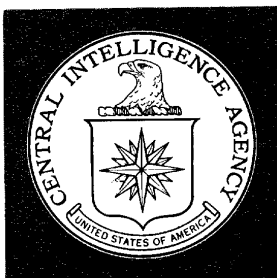


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CIA/SAVA / WVIIND 710612



WEEKLY VIETNAM INDICATORS

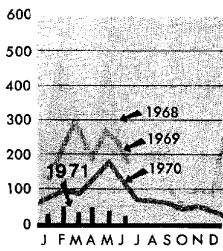
Week Ending 12 June 1971

NSA Declassification/Release instructions on File.

For the President Only

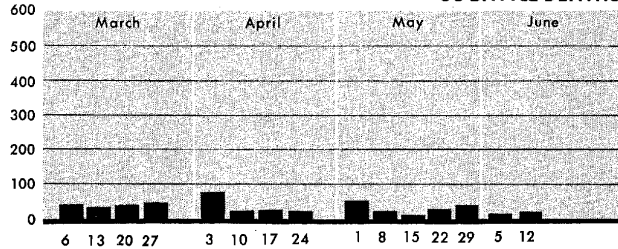
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SOUTH VIETNAM WEEKLY INDICATORS

1968-1971
Weekly average for each monthMARCH 1971 - JUNE 1971
Weekly data as reported

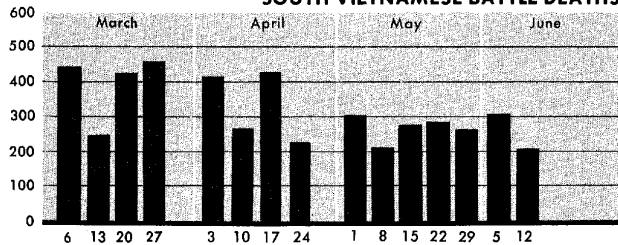
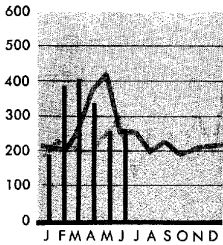
US BATTLE DEATHS

increased to 26 from last week's 19.



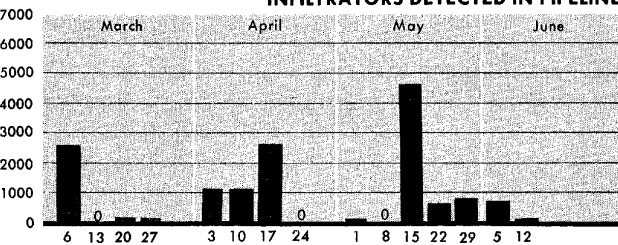
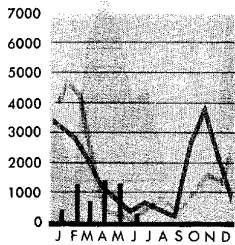
SOUTH VIETNAMESE BATTLE DEATHS

dropped from last week's 307 to 207 -- the lowest total since the end of January. The official total will change as late reports are received and will be lower than the figure released to the press by the GVN.



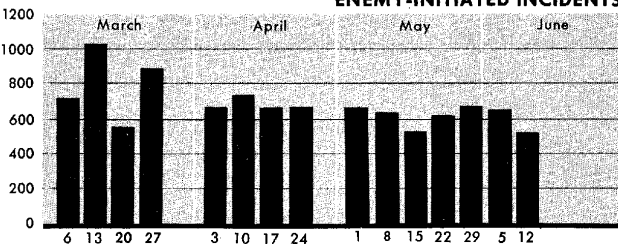
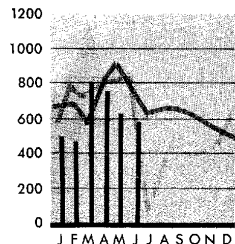
INFILTRATORS DETECTED IN PIPELINE

stand at one regular and two special purpose groups totaling 39 personnel. The estimate of infiltrators destined for South Vietnam/Cambodia since 1 October 1970 remains at some 67,600 - 69,600.



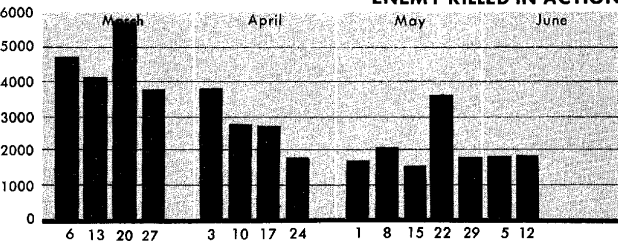
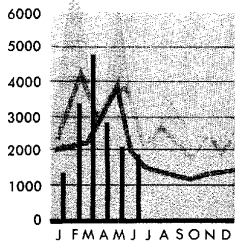
ENEMY-INITIATED INCIDENTS

decreased to 538 from the 646 of last week.



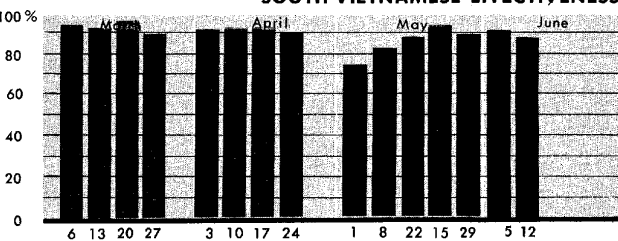
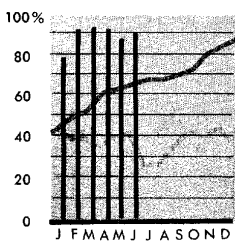
ENEMY KILLED IN ACTION

increased slightly from last week's 1878 to 1883.



SOUTH VIETNAMESE EFFECTIVENESS

as measured by the percentage of enemy killed by GVN forces declined to 88% from the 90% of last week.



Statistics for the latest week shown are preliminary

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Enemy Activity

In South Vietnam, enemy-initiated activity remained at fairly high levels in the northern provinces and in the central highlands. A further increase in activity is expected in Quang Tri Province where enemy forces have recently been augmented and preparations are being completed for attacks in the near future. In other parts of the country, however, the current low level of activity will probably continue.

The Royal Lao Government has announced the successful conclusion of its operation to clear the Communists from the immediate area of Luang Prabang. On the Long Tieng front, the monsoon rains have hampered both friendly and enemy operations and casualties have been light. Bouam Long, the heavily defended government site north of the Plain of Jars, however, is still receiving enemy pressure. On the Bolovens Plateau, the Lao Army operation to retake Paksong met fierce enemy counterattacks. These enemy attacks initially scattered friendly forces, but the latter are now regrouping.

In Cambodia, the Communists have continued strong opposition to government efforts to dislodge them from positions northeast of Phnom Penh. On the Route 3 clearing operation south of Phnom Penh, Cambodian government forces were attacked sharply and have been ordered to dig in at their present positions. Late in the week, South Vietnamese troops engaged the Communists in a prolonged battle near Krek.

Enemy Infiltration

The estimate of personnel moving toward South Vietnam/Cambodia since 1 October 1970 remains unchanged at 67,600 - 69,700, as only 39 infiltrators in one regular and two special purpose groups were detected during the week. Five other regular groups, however, may be in the system which would increase the overall estimate by some 2,500 to 3,000 men.

South Vietnam Developments

President Thieu has informed Ambassador Bunker that he has not yet decided whether to sign the election law which contains the controversial provision requiring endorsements of the candidates by 40 National Assemblymen or 100 local councillors. He asserted that both Minh and Ky are working in tandem to obtain the necessary endorsements and that neither will have any trouble getting the required minimum. Meanwhile, [redacted] informed the CIA station chief that Thieu remains determined to retain the provision, but that he might help Ky get the necessary endorsements if Minh is unable to do so. [redacted] said that former Prime Minister Tran Van Huong, a southern Buddhist with a political following, will be Thieu's vice presidential running mate. Khiem expressed the belief that Huong, despite his age, would broaden the appeal of Thieu's ticket.

The recently announced (and long gestating) cabinet changes appear to have little major significance. The inept Ministers of Information and Finance, and the corrupt Minister of Ethnic Minorities have been replaced by capable and untarnished men who should improve both the performance of their respective departments and the image of the government.

Communist Developments

The leaders elected at the recently-held legislature of the new DRV National Assembly are in the main the same men who have over the years led the Party-controlled North Vietnamese state; no new policy slants are indicated. Politburo member Pham Hung lost his post as one of the DRV's deputy prime ministers. Since he went south to command COSVN in the fall of 1967 and has been in South Vietnam ever since, this move may have been made for reasons of convenience and political appearances. It is difficult to assess the significance, if any, of the addition of Le Duan and Truong Chinh to the National Defense Council, a largely cosmetic organization.

Pham Van Dong's speech before the legislature is a typical optimistic restatement of Hanoi's determination to wage the war through to the end. The Prime Minister's assertion that "reality has substantiated"

the belief that Vietnamization will fail is based on his claiming success in the large "annihilation" battles during LAM SON 719 and most recently at Snuol. He viewed the current period as offering "favorable opportunities" to step up the struggle in South Vietnam and he added that the DRV will continue to assist the Lao and Cambodia revolutions "with a view to liberating the whole peninsula." He capped his hardline address by reaffirming that Hanoi's goal is to achieve a "victory of tremendous significance" over the United States.

~~Top Secret~~